

the method comprising the steps of:

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- a) accepting an input of the message, wherein the message comprises one or more characters of the plurality of languages;
 - b) evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, wherein the step of comparing each of the characters of the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express that character by performing a logical mask between a universal code for that character and an indicator in the character table bank indicating whether each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets contains that character;
 - c) computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched; and
 - d) selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched.
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2. [CANCELLED]

3. [CANCELLED]

4. [CANCELLED]
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8. (***TWICE AMENDED***) A system for evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank, the character table bank comprising one or more pre-determined candidate character sets of plurality of languages, the system comprising:

an input interface to accept an input of the message, wherein the message comprises one or more characters of the plurality of languages; and

a processor unit, connected to the input interface, the processor unit evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched, and selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched, wherein the processor unit comparing each of

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the characters of the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express that character by performing a logical mask between a universal code for that character and an indicator in the character table bank indicating whether each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets contains that character.

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- 10. [CANCELLED]
- 11. [CANCELLED]
- 12. [CANCELLED]
- 13. [CANCELLED]
- 14. [CANCELLED]

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15. **(TWICE AMENDED)** A system for evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank, the character table bank comprising one or more pre-determined candidate character sets of plurality of languages, the system comprising:

input interface means to accept an input of the message, wherein the message comprises one or more characters of the plurality of languages; and

processor means, connected to the input interface means, the processor means evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the

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character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched, and selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched, wherein the processor unit comparing each of the characters of the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express that character by performing a logical mask between a universal code for that character and an indicator in the character table bank indicating whether each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets contains that character.

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17. [CANCELLED]
18. [CANCELLED]
19. [CANCELLED]
20. [CANCELLED]
21. [CANCELLED]

22. (***TWICE AMENDED***) A storage medium for storing machine readable code, the machine readable code being executable to evaluate characters in an electronic message to a character table bank, the character table bank comprising one or more pre-determined candidate character sets of plurality of languages, the medium comprising the steps of:

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a) accepting an input of the message, wherein the message comprises one or more characters of the plurality of languages;

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b) evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, wherein the step of comparing each of the characters of the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express that character by performing a logical mask between a universal code for that character and an indicator in the character table bank indicating whether each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets contains that character;

c) computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched; and

d) selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of